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(54) Title  
**Pivoting surfboard fin**

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**P.H. Wallner**

(54) Inventor(s)  
**Peter Hugh Wallner**

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**APPLICATION FOR A STANDARD PATENT  
OR A STANDARD PATENT OF ADDITION**

(Insert full name(s) of applicant(s))  
(Insert address(es) of applicant(s))

(Insert title of invention)

(Stick appropriate box)

(Insert name of actual inventor)

(Insert address for service of notices in Australia)

(for Convention cases only)

(for Provisional applications only)

(for Patents of addition only)

(1) We

PETER HUGH WALLNER

of 4 GROSS MICHAEL RD KOFORD NSW 2460

(54) hereby apply for the grant of a  standard patent  patent of addition for an invention entitled

SURFBOARCS FIN

which is described in the accompanying  provisional  complete specification.

(72) The actual inventor(s) of the said invention is/are

PETER HUGH WALLNER

(74) My/our address for service is

4 GROSS MICHAEL RD KOFORD

N.S.W. 2460

Attorney Code.....

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(132) Date of basic application .....

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(62) Number of original application .....

Person by whom made .....

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I request that the patent may be granted as a patent of addition to the patent applied for on

(61) Application No. .... Patent No. ....

in the name of .....

I request that the term of the patent of addition be the same as that for the main invention or so much of the term of the patent for the main invention as is unexpired.

(Insert day, month and year form signed)

Dated this EIGHTEENTH day of FEBRUARY 19 96

TO

Peter H. Wallner  
(Signature)

THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS

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## DECLARATION IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION FOR A PATENT

In support of the Application made by

PETER HUGH WALLNER

for a patent for an invention entitled SUPEROARD FIN

PETER HUGH WALLNER  
of 4 GROSS MICHEL RD KOROPO N.S.W 2750

do solemnly and sincerely declare as follows:-

(1) I am the applicant for the patent.

*(or, in the case of an application by a body corporate)*

1. I am authorized by

the applicant for the patent to make this declaration on its behalf.

(2) I am the actual inventor of the invention.

*(or, where a person other than the inventor is the applicant)*

2.

of

is the actual inventor of the invention and the

facts upon which I am the ..... is entitled to make the application are as follows:

Declared at

F.C.T. this Eighteenth day of February 1986

Peter Wallner

(Signature of Declarant)

TO :

THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS.

(12) AUSTRALIAN PATENT ABSTRACT

(19) AU

(11) AU-A-68811/87

(54) PIVOTING SURFBOARD FIN

(75) PETER WALLNER

(21) 68811/87 (22) 18.2.86 (23) 13.2.87 (24) 18.2.86

(43) 20.8.87

(51)<sup>4</sup> A63C 15/05

(57)

In the use and operation of the invention, the fixed blade 1 is mounted to the surfboard at the horizontal upper 2 with the leading edge 3 facing the front of the surfboard. Infinite adjustment of the pivot action is made by rotating textured thumbwheel 10 which moves threaded rod 12 up circular hole 11, compressing spring 13 and restricting the vertical travel of pin 14. Fully restricting the vertical travel of pin 14 results in the upper portion of said pin seating in the deeper central portion of channel 16 completely preventing movement of pivot blade 6, and holding pivot blade 6 in alignment with fixed blade 1, counter rotating thumbwheel 10 to allow greater vertical movement of pin 14 results in greater pivot action of pivot blade 6 about pivot pins 4, 5. When a turn is on the surfboard, the rear section of executed pivot blade 6 is subject to increased transverse water resistance until overcoming centering pressure of spring 13 thus swinging pivot blade 6 in the direction of the turn. Water flow along the fin is then further redirected by a rudder effect along the front edge of pivot blade 6. When the turn is countered or the surfboard slows the water flow pressure decreases and the spring return action restores pivot blade 6 into alignment with fixed blade 1.

**Claim**

1. A fin for surfboards and other watercraft, comprising: a fin blade with means for attachment to a surfboard, a fixed leading edge section extending vertically down from said attachment means, a pivoting blade section mounted by pivot pins to said fixed leading edge section, a spring return means to realign said pivoting blade section with said fixed leading edge section.
2. A surfboard fin according to claim 1 wherein said spring return means include, a sliding pin and compression spring locating in a hole and said sliding pin contacting a suitably shaped channel in a foil integrated into the opposing fin blade section.



PATENT

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Form 10

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## COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

(ORIGINAL)

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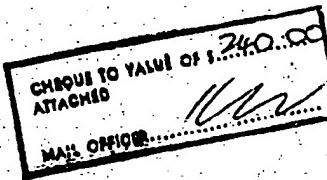
Short Title:

Int. Cl.:

Application Number:

Lodged:

6881187



Complete Specification—Lodged:

Accepted:

Lapsed:

Published:

Priority:

Related Art:



## TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

Name of Applicant: PETER WALLNER

Address of Applicant: 4 GROSS MICHEL RD KORORO N.S.W. 2450

Actual Inventor: PETER WALLNER

Address for Service: 4 GROSS MICHEL RD KORORO N.S.W. 2450

Complete Specification for the invention entitled:

PIVOTING SURFBOARD FIN

The following statement is a full description of this invention, including the best method of performing it known to me:—

\* Note: The description is to be typed in double spacing, pica type face, in an area not exceeding 250 mm in depth and 160 mm in width, on tough white paper of good quality and it is to be inserted inside this form.

TITLE OF INVENTION: PIVOTING SURFBOARD FIN

INVENTOR'S NAME: PETER WALLNER

INVENTOR'S ADDRESS: 4 CROSS MICHEL ROAD  
KORORO, N.S.W. 2450  
AUSTRALIA

INVENTOR'S CITIZENSHIP: AUSTRALIAN

RELATED APPLICATIONS: AUSTRALIAN PROVISIONAL PATENT  
APPLICATION NO. PH04644  
LODED 18 FEBRUARY 1986

THIS APPLICATION:  
CONTAINS 4 WRITTEN PAGES  
1 SHEET DRAWINGS

#### BACKGROUND OF INVENTION

The present invention concerns fins for surfboards and other surfcraft. Previous designs for hinged fins have included pivoting sections or the use of flexible materials. Generally these have not performed well nor have they included a streamlined means of spring returning the moveable section or provided it with a means of adjustment.

The present invention integrates into a novel fin, a spring returning pivoting section with a means to infinitely adjust the extent of travel allowed.

#### SUMMARY AND OBJECTS OF THE INVENTION

The general object of the invention is to provide a novel surfcraft fin with a variably pivoting section that decreases resistance to water flow across the fin blade and enhances manoeuvrability via a rudder effect, thus improving the versatility and capabilities of a surfcraft.

Another object is to provide a pivoting fin with an easy means of infinitely adjusting the movement of the pivoting section to include no movement.

Another object is to provide a fin with a spring loading means that realigns the pivoting section with the fin blade when necessary.

In summary the invention comprises a surfboard fin with a fixed blade section being mountable to a surfboard and extending vertically down from said mounting point.

Mounted to the fixed blade section, by two pivot pins, is a pivoting blade section. A spring loaded pin protrudes from a hole in the upper edge of the pivot blade section and pushes into a shallow channel in a shaped foil, perpendicularly integrated in to the underside of the fixed blades mounting section. Means is provided to reduce or increase the vertical travel of the spring loaded pin by a threaded rod, situated lower in the hole, which mates through a centrally threaded, textured thumbwheel which protrudes sufficiently, from a hole through the pivot blade, to be externally manipulated. The channel in the foil which the spring loaded pin travels along varies in depth, thus the spring loaded pin seeks the deeper central part of the foil and tends to align the two blade sections.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 Is a side elevation of the invention, partially cut away, as it would sit at rest.

Fig. 2 Is a plan view of the invention as it would sit at rest.

**CLAIMS**

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

The accompanying drawings depict a pivoting surfboard fin 7 comprising a fixed blade 1, with means for conventional attachment to surfboards at horizontal upper 2 and leading edge 3 being symmetrically bevelled to streamline action of said blade.

Pivot pins 4, 5 centrally locate and hinge pivot blade 6 about fixed blade 1. Pivot blade 6 has a horizontal rectangular hole 8 through its thickness, a textured circular thumbwheel 10 with a threaded central hole sits centrally in said rectangular hole. Diameter of thumbwheel 10 is marginally greater than the thickness of pivot blade 6 to enable finger rotation. A circular hole 11, having a diameter less than the thickness of pivot blade 6, extends down vertically from the upper side of pivot blade 6 to pass through the centre of rectangular hole 8. Threaded rod 12 locates in hole 11 mating through the threaded central hole of thumbwheel 10. Compression spring 13 locates freely in hole 11 above threaded rod 12. Pin 14 locates freely in hole 11 on compression spring 13. Upper end of spring pin 14 protrudes from hole 11 contacting suitably shaped channel 16 in shaped foil 15, said foil integrated into the lower surface of fixed blade horizontal upper 2 and extending perpendicular to and symmetrically about fixed blade 1. Channel 16 is shaped to be deepest at the centre of foil 15 and increasingly shallow as it extends to the periphery of said foil.

In the use and operation of the invention, the fixed blade 1 is mounted to the surfboard at the horizontal upper 2 with the leading edge 3 facing the front of the surfboard. Infinite adjustment of the pivot action is made by rotating textured thumbwheel 10 which moves threaded rod 12 up circular hole 11, compressing spring 13 and restricting the vertical travel of pin 14. Fully restricting the vertical travel of pin 14 results in the upper portion of said pin seating in the deeper central portion of channel 16 completely preventing movement of pivot blade 6, and holding pivot blade 6 in alignment with fixed blade 1, counter rotating thumbwheel 10 to allow greater vertical movement of pin 14 results in greater pivot action of pivot blade 6 about pivot pins 4, 5. When a turn is on the surfboard, the rear section of executed pivot blade 6 is subject to increased transverse water resistance until overcoming centering pressure of spring 13 thus swinging pivot blade 6 in the direction of the turn. Water flow along the fin is then further redirected by a rudder effect along the front edge of pivot blade 6. When the turn is countered or the surfboard slows the water flow pressure decreases and the spring return action restores pivot blade 6 into alignment with fixed blade 1.

The preceding embodiment refers to one embodiment only and it is understood that many variations, modifications and other applications may be made. What is claimed is:-

1. A fin for surfboards and other watercraft, comprising: a fin blade with means for attachment to a surfboard, a fixed leading edge section extending vertically down from said attachment means, a pivoting blade section mounted by pivot pins to said fixed leading edge section, a spring return means to realign said pivoting blade section with said fixed leading edge section.

2. A surfboard fin according to claim 1 wherein said spring return means include, a sliding pin and compression spring locating in a hole and said sliding pin contacting a suitably shaped channel in a foil integrated into the opposing fin blade section.

#### ABSTRACT

A novel fin for surfboards and other water craft that includes a pivoting rudder-like section that swings out when a turn is commenced, enhancing the manoeuvrability of a surfboard by reducing the resistance to the fin as it moves sideways through the water in a turn and by redirecting the water flow through the pivoting rudder section in the direction of the turn. The fin comprises a fixed blade with means to attach to a surfboard.

A separate pivoting fin section is joined to the fixed blade by two pivot pins. A spring loaded pin, with means for adjustment by a threaded rod and thumbwheel, protrudes from a hole in the top of the pivoting fin section. The top of the vertically located spring loaded pin passes into a channel in the underside of a foil integrated into the underside of the fixed blade mounting section. The channel is deepest in the centre of the foil thus the spring loaded pin in travelling back and forth along the channel seeks the deepest portion which tends to align the two fin blade sections. Adjustment to the pivoting fin action is provided by allowing more or less vertical movement of the spring loaded pin.

**DRAWINGS**

68-811/87

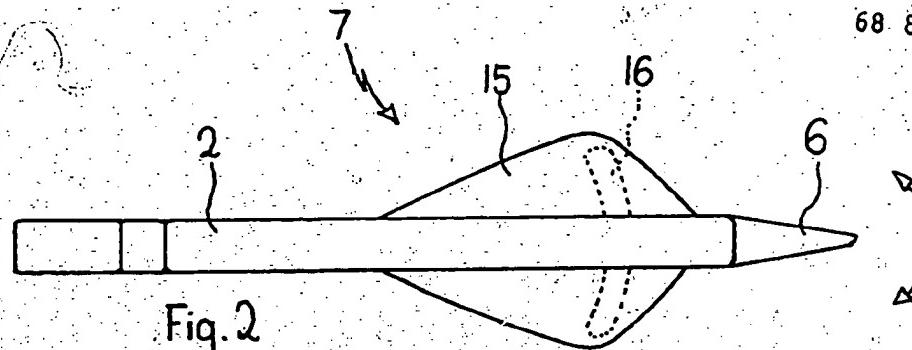


Fig. 2

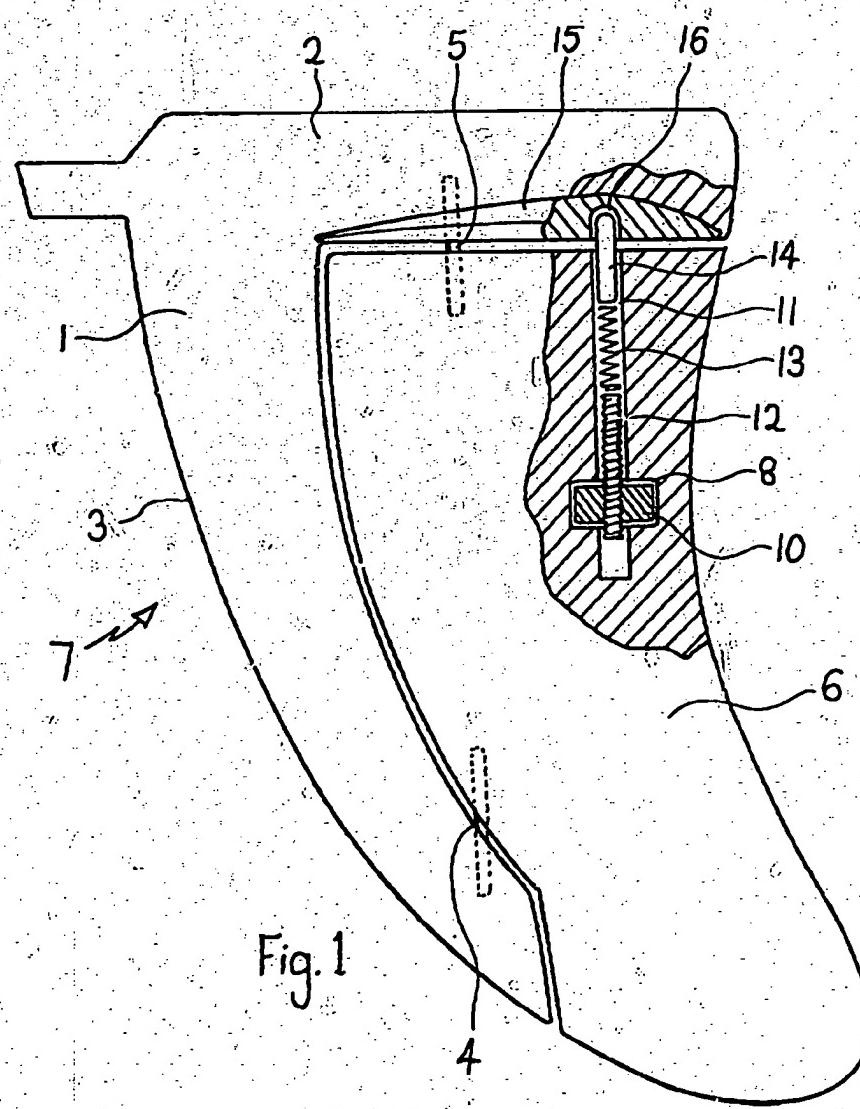


Fig. 1

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